

October 2008

The Yorkies



# Little Clatter

Hi Yorkies,

Our last edition before Christmas (aaaahhhh) and sat here after our last ride of the season, Paul on his Virago trike led us around the big tower, Holme Moss, Snake Pass and The Strines. Very, very cold, blowing a gale and the odd shower, so it ended as our season started then, but a brilliant day out for the hardy few. A big thanks to Paul, Mick and Graham for leading their fave rides, I personally give them a big thanks as its great to be in the pack now and again. So if YOU have a favourite area and ride please let me know and you can go on our 09 ride out list.

There are many people I would like to thank for making our centre one of the best, their help at rallies / ride outs / meetings, photos, magazines, the web, really just a big thanks to you all for staying a Yorkie.

Steve, with the web, and our contributors have excelled again and made our website one of the best in the VSOC. If you haven't a computer at home ask someone who has and see what is on there, there's bound to be a picture of you somewhere, with Bev and Mark clicking away we are getting some brilliant shots. And of course Maggi for putting our centre's mag together, so if you want to share your experiences in our club just write what you feel, she will make some sort of sense out of an article, as I know too well!!!

Our annual dinner / dance is now to its limit for rooms available. To think that its only early winter and our "do" in Feb has received a brilliant response from members. Must soon be time to start hunting the sales for that special outfit, and that's just the blokes. We will do the draw for the honeymoon suite after Christmas and best of luck to those going, ask Tony and Maddie what its like in there mmmmmm.

Next year Roy and Julie and our Alan and Leslie have organised some camping weekends away. Again a big thanks for getting them set up and in motion. Just look out for our 09 calendar and all will be revealed. At the AGM you will see how much John, Julie and the girls have made in the year on our raffles, a staggering sum, and really boosted at Jen and Kev's wedding weekend - Marie's whip really did work then !!!

I hope at our meetings, existing members will welcome and bring new ones into the conversation and make them welcome. I'm sure you will remember what its like when you join a group of people for the first time. If you are a new member, or an old member turning up for the first time, please make yourself known and we will introduce you to the other members

There are two important notices in this little clatter, firstly about our AGM in February and most important about our new meeting place for the 1st of the month Tuesday meetings. We have outgrown The Reindeer now and after a visit by the committee we have found a very suitable pub, check out the notice in this Little Clatter, and we hope to see you there, we will be made very welcome.

That's enough waffle from me, enjoy this edition and on behalf of your committee have a great Christmas and hope we get your renewal next year and see you on some of our days or weekends away

Ride safe and if I don't see you before - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Terry (Centre Rep)**

### Your Committee

**Terry Lewis**  
Centre Rep



**Don Gay**  
Treasurer



**Paul Marshall**  
Deputy Rep



**Mick and Sandie Bryant**  
Membership Rep



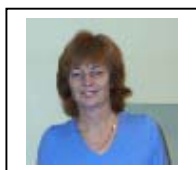
**Steve Lewis**  
Webmaster



**Ivan Crabtree**  
Merchandise



**Maggi Hadfield**  
Little Clatter



**John King and Julie**  
Fundraising



**Kev Villiers**



**Tom Hepplestone**



I think that I might have got a little carried away with the photos in at least one of the articles this time so I hope that you can make them out. There are literally hundreds of photos from the bonding weekend/wedding/birthday party and I'd have loved to put them all in. If we have a slow news winter I might put some in a future edition to brighten things up as I'm struggling to find a face on them that isn't smiling!

I've tried not to make the wedding pics too weddingy and I've even included a few bikes although they are only a fraction of the 100 that were in the procession. Many thanks to everybody who organised, helped or just turned up and made it into a good time. As Jen said on the day, you could pay a £1,000,000 and still not have had such a good time.

Ride Safe and a Merry Christmas (Bah humbug!)

Maggi (Ed)

**Yorkies –  
to add articles or advertise your  
unwanted motorcycle and related items in  
“THE LITTLE CLATTER”**

**Contact Maggi on 01142846778 or  
07967472360**

**or send an e-mail to**

**[dmaggih@talktalk.net](mailto:dmaggih@talktalk.net)**

**(please put “Little Clatter” in subject)**

*Please note new email address – yet agin!*

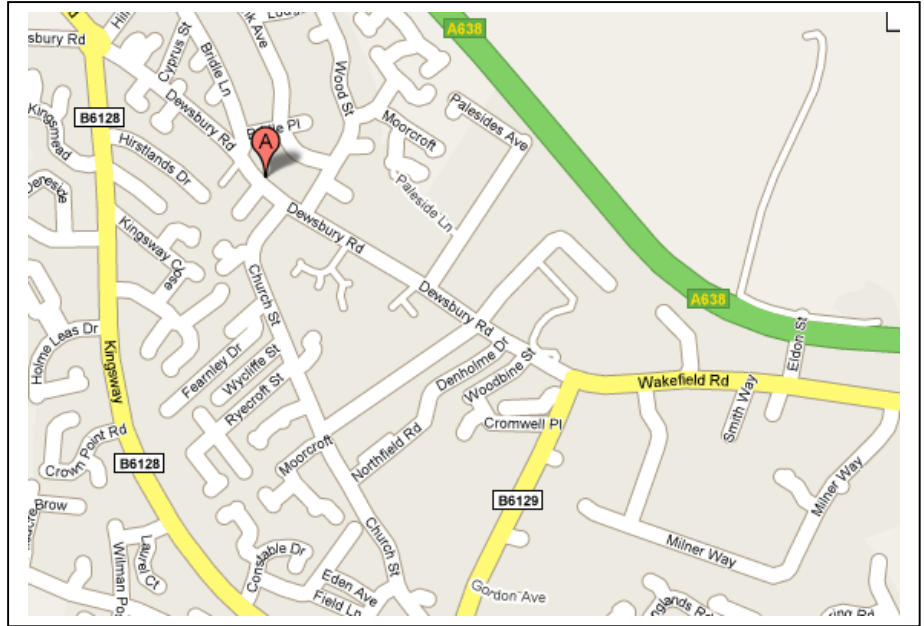
**Have you visited the  
Yorkies web site ??  
[www.5staryorkies.org.uk](http://www.5staryorkies.org.uk)  
or the national website  
[www.vsoc.org.uk](http://www.vsoc.org.uk)**

# Yorkie News

## New Meeting Venue

The meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month has moved from the Reindeer and will now take place at -

**The Flying Horse**  
**Dewsbury Road**  
**Ossett**  
**WF5 9NY**



The first meeting at the Flying Horse will be December 2<sup>nd</sup> and will include a Welcome / Christmas Buffet.

Great news as another lady biker joins our fold. Allison has passed her test at the first attempt and now, thanks to John in preparing and painting her 535, Allison is well on the road..  
At the Donny show her bike had many admirers and photos taken of this unusual but stunning Virago.  
Best wishes from all us Yorkies.



## Committee News

Karl has stood down from his role on the Yorkies committee and Kev Villiers, having transferred from Centre 9, was co-opted onto the committee at the recent committee meeting. Please see the committee pics if you haven't seen all the wedding pics and don't know who he is already!

## Yorkie's AGM

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2009, Royal Oak, Hirst Courtney**

Advance warning that the Yorkie's Annual General Meeting will take place at the Hirst Courtney meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in February.  
Please let Terry know by the end of January if you have any items for the agenda or any nominations for the committee.

A big thank you from Chris and Bryan for their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday gifts and just to prove that they are using them - here's the evidence!



## Barnard Castle Rideout– 10<sup>th</sup> August

8:50am, I put on my new open faced helmet and sun glasses and I set my Tom Tom for directions and off with the sunshine I went. I thought I was going to be ok for petrol and decided that because of the time I would get my petrol in Harrogate. I went up that famous windy street in Yorkshire they call the A1, I hate that road. Tom Tom was taking me in the right direction and then about 32 miles from Harrogate, my petrol light came on. Brilliant, I guess I am now going to find out how far I can go on reserve. Tom Tom told me to take the next junction to get off for Harrogate, it was blocked off and the road was being erased forever. I then proceeded to tell the Tom Tom what I thought of it. It recalculated another route and I aimed for it with even less petrol. I had a bit of a dilemma while searching for the nearest petrol station on route, was I going to backtrack and go back on myself for petrol or proceed because my estimated time of arrival was 10:00am at the Cairn Hotel. I decided to risk the petrol station in my direction of travel since I did not want to be late. By now I was on about 20 miles used on reserve but I did get to the petrol station after 28 miles of first illuminating the petrol light and I think it was close to running out so at least I have a general idea of my reserve tank now. I also managed to arrive on time so luck was with me today.

We all set off for Barnard castle, about twenty motorbikes and after about thirty minutes of riding the Heavens opened, down came the rain instantly about 200mph, well it felt like it, it suddenly hit me, not just the rain but the reason why open faced helmets are not compatible with the rain. Thank goodness I had my sunglasses on, but then just as I thought it could not get any worse, a great big dollop of rain hit my nose just on the centre of my nose's bridge. That big splat made my head jerk once as that big dollop of rain split up into two directions, one for each eye. For a moment I was thinking of just jumping off my motorbike to put myself out of my misery of the pain all that rain was doing to my cheeks and eyes, but do you know what, after five minutes it did not bother me, I did not realise why it didn't bother me until we had stopped about twenty minutes later at a lovely little cafe and beauty spot that my face was numb. No wonder it didn't bother me after five minutes.

I think it was at this point that the group had decided that Barnard Castle would be out of the question because of the rain, it was very bad. So after a cup of tea and a bite to eat, we set off to the Woolpack in Emmerdale. We had a drink or two and I myself had a coke with a bit of lemon then we all had a group orgy,,,,,erh did I say orgy, I mean a group photo and then after this, the weather was on and off so just some of us went on to Squires to finalise a last port of call before we made our ways home.

I had my first Cornish pasty at Squires and I must say I really enjoyed that pasty and I will be having another next time I visit Squires, but you will be glad to hear that I enjoyed the rain more than I ever thought I could have done, I had a laugh and some of the images I took on the day are below. You might not see much rain in the images but the clouds, they tell the tale.

**Mark Smith**



# Yorkies Bonding / Jen & Kevs Wedding / A BC60 birthday



'Twas the night before Wedding and all round the gaff,  
Everyone wants to party, yes even the staff  
The girls put on costumes wi't greatest of care  
The guys then got dressed up as if for a dare



There were vamps and monsters and 'spenders galore  
And some guys in stockings, to make you go phwooaar  
So Jen in her PVC and me in my frock  
Went up to the clubhouse and boy did it rock

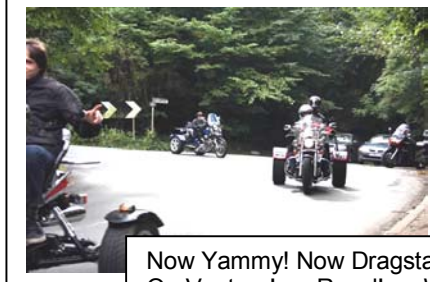
And standing in the middle with such a big grin  
Was the husband to be - the bridegroom Kevin  
Then with a quick kiss and "Oi! mind the tache"  
It was onto the dancefloor, quick as a flash



The band were dressed for an Ann Summer's party  
The audience were far more outrageous and tarty  
There was drinking and dancing and singing too  
But it all had to end - in the morning at 2



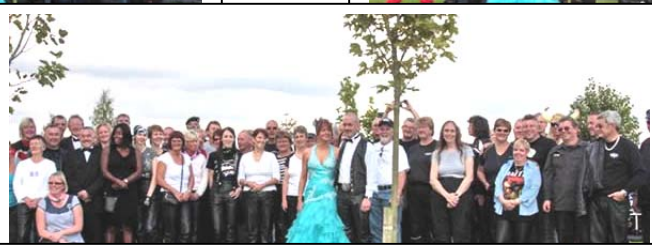
And soon it is morning and the groom is near ready  
 He's got people round to keep his nerve steady.  
 The riders all gather to hear Terry's plan  
 Or in case he is jumping they've got superman



Now Yammy! Now Dragstar! now Wildstar and biker  
 On Venture! on Royal! on Warrior and triker  
 To the Pastures Hotel! To the wedding we roll!  
 Now ride away! ride away! ride away all!"



I haven't got room to write all the rhyme  
 But look at the pictures to see a good time  
 With two guards of honour and a chimney sweep too  
 Only the bride's dress was left feeling blue



And I heard them exclaim, 'ere the end of the night .....



**What an excellent wedding and a bloody good night**

## From V50 to Virago

Hiya, I'm Julia, you may have met me at the dinner dance or on the one occasion so far I have actually managed to get to a ride-out, have been a member for a couple of years now, and have been promising to write an article ever since I joined, so here goes.

I started my biking career with a little orange Kawasaki 125 bought at the ripe old age of 26, having wanted a bike for many years. My next foray into bikes was with an old (1948) BSA A7, which after riding briefly I then stripped down ready for a rebuild. Usual story, despite then going ahead and getting lots of the bits done up, I never got round to putting it back together and sold it in bits (wonder if it ever got reassembled?). Just after I met my husband Chris, I spotted a lonely little Moto Guzzi V50II lurking in the back of a bike dealer's shop, got Chris to test ride it for me, and subsequently owned and rode her for about 18 years.

My V50 (or Sophy, as she was called) had never let me down, but she was getting to an age (almost 30!) where despite her ridiculously low mileage for age (19,000) I was getting more nervous about taking her for long runs just in case. In any event, it is always worrying having elderly Italian electrics given the wet weather that often seems to hit just as you are too far out on a ride to make it worth turning back!

We moved house in 2005, and with the house came a HUGE garage, big enough to get a workbench in the back, two cars squeezed in nose-to-tail, and with a useful dog-leg just the right size for 2 bikes. In fact it is probably fair to say that my husband fell in love with the garage, and the fact that the house with it was quite nice sort of clinched the deal. We had promised ourselves that once we were settled that my husband and I would both get new bikes, so now was the time!

I sold Sophy on eBay – she fetched about twice as much as I had expected, which was great, then the question arose of what to get next. Being vertically challenged, I found this narrowed the field a lot for me. I wandered into a friendly local bike dealer's, and told the salesman that my two main criteria were that I needed a bike which had a comfy pillion seat (my daughter's instructions) and on which I could touch the floor without sliding half off the seat. After going round the showroom and sitting on just about every bike they had, I found the most comfortable one of the selection they had there was a Dragstar, which was pretty chunky, but I thought I could handle.

I then returned with my husband and father-in-law (he was visiting, and likes bikes!) for another look at the weekend. I have to say they were less than impressed with the Dragstar, and the clinching point was the definite implication that it made me look fatter (Does my bum look big on this, dear?) – I don't know if it was true, but there aren't many women who would buy a bike after being told that – so warped are our psyches - anyhow, sitting opposite the Dragstar was a Virago, which hadn't been there on my previous visit. I had to say I liked her rather more elegant lines and sit-up style, but had I been there on my own would never have considered her seriously – an 1100? I've driven cars with smaller engines than that! But, husband and father-in-law encouraged me to try her out, and pointed out that all the weight was very low and, like the Dragstar, it was a cruiser rather than a sports bike, so should be pretty torquey and comfortable to ride. I booked a test ride, then returned to the showroom a day or two later in my frankly tatty helmet, old jeans and Brando-style jacket to take her out. This was (inevitably) at the same time as several other test rides of enormous multicoloured superbikes were being undertaken by tall whippet-thin young men in one-piece racing leathers with colour co-ordinated boots, gloves and helmets.

The test ride was terrifying – I actually only took Sophy out for about 2 rides in 2004, then in 2005 had been too busy to take her out at all, and 2006 had consisted of moving her from shed to garage to another garage and a quick wobble down the road before selling her to make sure all was well, so my riding skills were rusty to say the least. The bike dealer's is not far from the town centre, but luckily also not far from a lot of quiet back streets with small industrial units, and as it was a Saturday, they were even quieter than usual. So there was no-one to see me wobbling dreadfully, steaming up my visor with perspiration, over-revving on hill starts, and going far too wide on all the bends. However, despite all this, I thought I could handle the bike with some practice, in fact, being a V-twin and having a frankly clunky gear box, it actually feels like a rather bigger version of the V50, (though I have still to get used to the fact that it doesn't have a permanent puddle of oil on top of the engine.....)

Went back to the dealer's and sorted out the paperwork. In between initially seeing the bike and test riding it, I had managed to contact the previous owner (copied his name and address down from the logbook) and checked out the bike's history and reason he sold. He said that he had had no problems with the Virago and had used it for touring with no hassles. The bike was in lovely condition for 8 years old, so I went ahead, and am now the proud owner and rider of my big Virago! It took me a little while to gain confidence in chucking her round corners and opening her up on faster roads – I was delighted to find there is no drama or fuss with this big torquey engine, you can be pottering along at 30 or 40, just open the throttle a bit, and (unlike some bikes, where when you wind it on you have to hang onto the handlebars in case you fly off and splat on the windscreen of a following car), in a very short time you check the speedo and you are doing 70 or 80 plus – I understand from the handbook that the top speed is 126 mph – but not with me on it, it isn't. I find it an absolute joy on hills, where it flies up the steepest hills with little effort, and living in a very hilly part of the world, that is a definite bonus. The comfy pillion seat and sissy bar is much appreciated by my daughter, so for the foreseeable future, I will be a "big cruiser" lady. She has been christened Velvet, as my daughter feels bikes should have a name, and wouldn't let me call her Vera!

Since getting Velvet, I have bought some nice soft panniers and tailbag, (big enough for a week's clothes, a fair amount of shopping, or enough cakes for a girly evening in), and I am planning to treat her to some braided stainless cables and hoses. I have also bought myself some slightly more upmarket biking gear, though I am unlikely ever to be seen in multi-coloured one-piece leathers, and despair of ever finding good quality bike boots to fit me well. We had our first proper outing to the National WIMA Rally in Ashbourne in 1986, loaded up with camping equipment and daughter, and since then I have enjoyed riding Velvet to the Isle of Man, and all over Derbyshire and Yorkshire. I am still not the most confident rider as I feel I don't get out enough, though given the weather in the last couple of years that's not surprising. I invested in a day's one-to-one training with Sue of Freebird (will do another article about that!) which boosted my confidence and skills a lot, and may take it further with a course stretching over a few days next year – you can always improve your riding skills.

Look forward to seeing you around as I get out and about more!

JULIA PIGNON.

## And on to next year .....

### Rallies

First on the national agenda is the Irish rally over the May Day weekend. There are currently about 8 people definitely going so if you want more information then let Terry know. Chris and Maggi are going to extend the weekend with a tour ending on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May travelling back to Holyhead. Let them know if you are interested in joining them.

The UK is hosting the International Rally this year at Eastleigh. The weekend ticket includes the cost of breakfast and dinner as is normal at the International Rallies. Additional nights (pre and post) weekend camping and food will be available. Please see main Clatter for flyer.

The Cockney Rejects rally in July is at the Esher Rugby Club again although the parakeets have apparently flown!

Details of the August Bank Holiday rally will be advertised when available.

### Camping Weekends

Allan and Leslie are going to organise a camping weekend in Wales again this year and details of dates, location etc will be advertised as soon as these are confirmed.

#### Cottesmore Camping Weekend 18-21<sup>st</sup> June

Roy and Julie are arranging a camping weekend at Cottesmore again this year. This will take place in July at Cottesmore (obviously) with the local scouts again providing breakfast on the Sunday. Cost will be £6 per tent per night.

### Terry & Sue's Wedding / Summer Party 17 – 19<sup>th</sup> July

**Doncaster RFC, Castle Park, Doncaster DN2 5QB**

**Usual excellent facilities at DRFC, Hog Roast, Disco  
Friday night** Stag and Hen do, disco, band, theme  
Shipwrecked

**Saturday** rideout to fetch the bride, ceremony, rideout for  
some pics then party with disco and Celtic rock band.



### Yorkies Annual Holiday

There is no holiday planned for May Day week due to the clash with the Irish Rally but, the timings of this year's rallies mean that there is nothing booked over the Spring Bank Holiday. Accommodation in a main holiday week may be considered too pricey ('Ow much!) but it is being considered and we'll let you know if/when there is more information.

A European holiday is definitely being planned for 2010.

### Yorkies Dinner Dance

**Cairn Hotel, Harrogate  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Now fully booked but if you are interested then let Terry or Don know in case there are any cancellations.**

## Events -2009

### VSOC and Non-VSOC

7th February	<b>Yorkies Dinner Dance</b> Cairn Hotel in Harrogate.
6th - 8th February	<b>2nd Snooty's Frozen Brush Rally</b> The Snooty Fox on the A64 Scarbro' Road, East Heslerton, YO17 8EN. £8.00 pre book or £10.00 on the gate – Tel 0778 487 9467 or email karllfb@live.co.uk or all127@hotmail.com
17th February	<b>Yorkies AGM</b> Royal Oak in Hirst Courtney to start at 8pm.
10th - 13th April	<b>East Leeds Lions 10th Anniversary Easter Rally</b> Eccup, Leeds – a new site for 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2009 rally <b>More information at <a href="http://www.eastleedslions.co.uk">www.eastleedslions.co.uk</a></b>
24th to 26th April	<b>Virago Star Club Netherlands</b> <b>Southern Snakes - 5th Start of Season Rally - Holland</b> <b>More information at <a href="http://www.southern-snakes.com">www.southern-snakes.com</a></b>
1st - 4th May	<b>VSOC Centre 2 - Laughin' Leprechaun II Rally</b> Ballymena Rugby Club, Raceview Road, Ballymena, BT43 7BX
16th - 17th May	<b>BMF SHOW</b> East of England Showground, Peterborough.
22nd - 24th May	<b>2nd Belgian Dutch Virago Star Club Rally</b> <b>Belgium</b>
29th - 31st May	<b>7th Treffen 2009 Rally</b> <b>More information at <a href="http://www.wildstarfan.nl/Treffen/2009.htm">www.wildstarfan.nl/Treffen/2009.htm</a></b>
12th - 14th June	<b>INTERNATIONAL RALLY - VSOC Centre 16</b> Trojans Rugby Club, Stoneham Lane, Eastleigh, Hants, SO50 9HT Tickets £35 including 2 breakfast and dinners
19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>Cottesmore Camping Weekend</b>
26th - 28th June	<b>VSOC Centre 8 - West Midlands Alouettes Rally</b>
17th - 19th July	<b>Terry (Lewis) and Sue's Wedding Do</b> FREE do again from the Yorkies to celebrate the wedding of Terry and Sue. Bands, hog roast, disco, fancy dress with further details to follow.
24th - 26th July	<b>VSOC Centre 14 - Cockney Rejects Rally</b>
29th - 31st August	<b>VSOC Centre 6 - North Stars Rally</b>

## Yorkie Rideouts

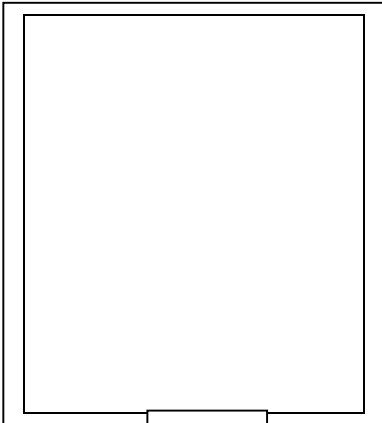
There are no further planned rideouts in 2008 and the 2009 rideouts will be discussed at the next committee meeting in January. As previous years, if there is a nice Sunday and you want the chance to meet up with other Yorkies then Squires at Sherburn-in-Elmet around 10-11:00 is a good bet.

## Yorkie Meetings

Day	Location	Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	The FlyingHorse, Dewsbury Road, Ossett, WF5 9NY	8pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	The Royal Oak, Hirst Courtney, Nr Selby, YO8 8QT	8pm

## Member Recommend

And this time it's from me! I can't thank this guy enough for helping me out and getting Jen's new initials on her waistcoat. Having been let down with 3 days to go to the wedding I found Grant who had plenty of work on (given that he was working til 9pm every night) but he still took time out to do Jen's waistcoat .....

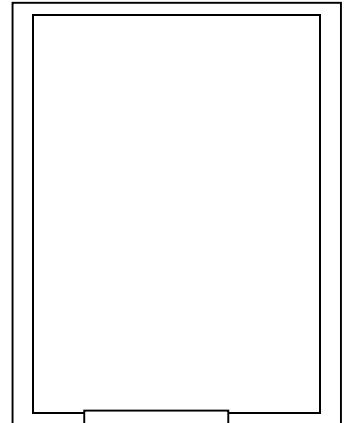


Tanks



He seems to paint all sorts of things so, if you get chance, have a look at his website

**G Hood Custom Paintwork**  
**c/o Flameworks Custom Cycles,**  
**Lancaster Road, Carnaby,**  
**Bridlington, East Yorkshire**  
**YO15 3QY**  
**07866 537219**  
**[info@granthood.co.uk](mailto:info@granthood.co.uk)**



Leather

